

II
Preston Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1971

Preston Rural District Council



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J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D,

Other Public Appointments:

M.O.H. Adlington U.D.C., M.O.H. Chorley R.D.C., M.O.H. Chorley M.B.,
M.O.H. Fulwood U.D.C., M.O.H. Leyland U.D.C., M.O.H. Longridge U.D.C.,
M.O.H. Walton-le-Dale U.D.C., M.O.H. Withnell U.D.C.
Divisional Medical Officer, Lancashire C.C. Health Division 4

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

L. H. MAYER-JONES, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Other Public Appointments:

Senior Assistant Division Medical Officer Lancashire C.C. Health Division 4
and Deputy M.O.H. to the Local Authorities mentioned above.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

T. BAXTER, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

I. SHEPHERD, M.A.P.H.I.

District Public Health Inspectors:

B. J. KIRKHAM, M.A.P.H.I.

W. J. HOLDEN, M.A.P.H.I.

I. R. FOSTER, M.A.P.H.I.

Student Public Health Inspector:

D. HIND

Clerk:

Mrs. M. R. MARTIN

Shorthand/Typist

Mrs. C. JONES

Wardens — Sheltered Housing Accommodation

Mrs. A. S. BRAMLEY — Martinfield, Penwortham

Mrs. E. SEED — Sunningdale, Barton

Mrs. E. BARBER — Boundary Close, New Longton to 14-11-71 and

Mrs. M. SHERRINGTON from 15-11-71

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1971

To the Chairman and Members of the Preston Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting for your consideration my annual report for the year 1971, together with the vital statistics relating thereto.

The general statistics show the overall health condition of the residents to be satisfactory. The Registrar General's estimate of the population was 53,200, an increase of 1,510 on the 1970 figures, this was mainly due to private housing development in several parishes, especially Penwortham.

During the year the total number of births was 799, which was 110 more than in the previous year. This figure was the highest number of births for the last four years. The live birth rate for the district was 15.0 per 1,000 compared with 13.3 in 1970. The adjusted birth rate was 17.4, which is substantially higher than the rate for England and Wales, namely 16.0. Births outside marriage amounted to 4.6% of the total number.

Despite the increase in population, the number of deaths (628) showed very little difference from that for the previous year (626) and the death rate, calculated on the home population, was 11.8 per 1,000. The adjusted death rate, using the Registrar General's comparability factor, was 11.2 per 1,000, compared with a death rate of 11.6 for the whole of England and Wales.

Heart diseases continued to be the main cause of death in males under the age of 65. The number of males in that age group who died of heart diseases during the year was 43, which was nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the number who died from cancer.

Notifiable diseases showed a marked drop over the previous year, which was accounted for by the fact that there was a drastic decrease in the incidence of measles from 584 to 44. Whilst the decrease may to some extent be attributable to vaccination against measles it is well known that outbreaks occur in biennial cycles. Parents are strongly urged to take full advantage of the protection offered by vaccination and immunisation against this and other infectious diseases.

During the year circulars were issued by the Department of Health and Social Security advising that routine vaccination against smallpox need not now be recommended in early childhood. This advice is based on the fact that the smallpox eradication programme of the World Health Organisation has made such remarkable progress that the chances of introduction of smallpox into Britain have substantially diminished. The number of serious complications from vaccination in childhood, though small, is now considered to be out of proportion to the risk from smallpox in this country. Vaccination continues to be recommended for travellers to and from countries where the disease is endemic or where eradication programmes are in progress, and for health service staff who may come into contact with patients.

Early in the year an outbreak of dysentery occurred at a primary school in the district. This outbreak came to light when a pupil at the school was admitted to a Blackburn hospital suffering from sickness and diarrhoea. When this case was investigated it transpired that many other pupils at the school were either suffering or had recently suffered from similar symptoms. Faeces specimens were then submitted to the Public Health Laboratory by all the teachers, pupils and kitchen staff at the school and it was found that one teacher and eleven pupils were also suffering from the disease. All those infected were excluded from school until they had completed medical treatment and the necessary negative faeces specimens had been submitted.

An outbreak of *Salmonella typhimurium* which occurred in the autumn was found to have been caused by infected milk produced on a farm at Goosnargh.

As a large milk retailing business was carried on from the premises and supplies of untreated milk were also sent to local dairies and hospitals, enquiries had to be made over a wide area in order to ascertain the extent of the outbreak.

A total of 21 people, including the farmer's wife and one of the farm workers residing in the rural district, were found to have become infected, as well as more than 100 others who resided within the areas of neighbouring local authorities.

A veterinary investigation revealed that four cows and eight calves on the farm were infected. In addition, a stream running through the farmland had become contaminated with *Salmonella* organisms and all the occupiers of land downstream from the farm had to be contacted in order to enable them to take steps to prevent their animals gaining access to it.

A heat treatment notice, under the provisions of Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, was served on the occupier of the farm requiring the heat treatment of all milk produced on the premises before it was sold for human consumption.

All the patients recovered within a comparatively short time, but at the end of the year there was still insufficient evidence that the farm was free from infection to justify the withdrawal of the heat treatment notice.

On enquiries being made regarding a Cottam resident who was notified as a case of food poisoning, it transpired that the patient had contracted a *Clostridium welchii* infection at a cafe in Preston where she had a meal on the day previous to the onset of the illness. Investigations at the cafe concerned, by health officials of Preston Corporation, revealed that not only were the proprietors themselves infected but also that food and equipment on the premises were grossly contaminated with *Clostridium welchii*.

The infection of milk by brucella organisms, which may give rise to the disease known as undulant fever in human beings if consumed in its raw state, continues to be a problem and during the year several samples of milk taken from retailers in the district were found to contain these organisms. In each case, however, the infected animals in the herds concerned were identified and disposed of.

There has been a steady increase in the number of herds which are free from the disease and at the end of the year 76 farms in the district had herds in the Brucella (Accredited Herds) Scheme.

It is very gratifying that a phased programme for smoke control for the area has been approved by the Department of the Environment and that the first smoke control order, which will cover more than 1,000 houses in the parish of Lea, will soon be in operation.

The building of a Health Centre at Longton by the Lancashire County Council was commenced during the year and has, in fact, now been completed and is in use.

Such premises are shared by general practitioners and local authority nursing and health visiting, and possibly social work, staff.

The Council's efforts to obtain a site for the new Ribchester Sewage works became one step nearer reality as a result of the public enquiry into the Council's Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of land for the new works at Ribchester.

The Order was approved with modifications but there are still some important matters to be resolved, these are mainly in connection with the line of the access road, and discussions are continuing with the interested parties with the aim of obtaining the best solution to this problem.

To conclude this introduction, I would like to record a tribute to the late Councillor H. Catlow, who died shortly before the end of his term of office as Chairman of the Public Health Committee; I knew him for many years and regarded him as a very capable man who was always ready to assist in any way he could. He was held in high esteem by everyone. I am sure he will be very greatly missed by the members of the Council, the staff, and people throughout the district.

I also wish to express my very sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement and to the staff of the department for the manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I am especially grateful to Mr. Kirby, the Clerk of the Council, and Mr. Baxter, the Chief Public Health Inspector, for their invaluable help at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE AREA

The Rural District is largely a lowland area, mainly below 250 feet, lying largely to the north of the River Ribble, but with considerable extensions south of the river, south-west and east of Preston. In the extreme north of the district the land rises rapidly to 874 feet at Beacon Fell, and in the east, heights of over a thousand feet are attained on the southern slopes of Longridge Fell. North of Preston the drainage is largely eastwards to the River Wyre, while the rest of the district drains directly or indirectly into the Ribble.

The solid geological formations represented in the district are buried beneath a thick cover of "drift" deposits. Apart from the valley alluvium of the rivers and streams and the raised terraces, along the Ribble and Darwen, the "drift" is composed of glacial boulder clay, sand and gravel.

The latter occur only as impersistent patches on the boulder clay, such as that to the north-east of Goosnargh, or is exposed in the sides of the many stream valleys. Boulder clay covers most of the district, and in general gives rise to a heavy clay soil. The numerous marl pits which were dug many years ago to obtain material to lighten the soil are a characteristic feature of boulder clay areas. The heavy clay soils provide excellent pastures which support dairy herds, and arable farming is of less importance. Poultry farming is widespread, as it is throughout the whole of the Fylde area.

The solid rocks have little effect on the physical features of the area because of the thick drift cover. Over much of the area this thick cover renders it impossible to determine with any degree of accuracy the nature and structure of the underlying rocks, unless borings are undertaken. In the extreme north and east of the district, however, the solid formations outcrop at the surface. These outcrops belong to the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit formation. The former is the oldest formation represented in the district, but here it does not carry the massive limestone beds so characteristic of other areas, e.g. Clitheroe. It is composed of a thick series of shales with thin limestones, which underlie the greater part of the parishes of Goosnargh, Whittingham and Houghton. Towards the top of the latter there is a rather thicker limestone bed, the Pendleside Limestone, which occurs on the northern flanks of Longridge Fell. The top of the Carboniferous Limestone is formed by the Lower Bowland Shales, which contain a fairly characteristic grit band, the Pendleside Grit. These occur on Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell. The Millstone Grit is represented by a series of grits and shales. The lowest beds are the Upper Bowland Shales, which are succeeded by the massive Pendle Grit. This latter forms the conspicuous feature of Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell, and together with the overlying shales and grits, underlie the parishes of Hothersall, Ribchester and Dutton. Millstone Grit shales and grits are present beneath the "drift" in the southern part of the parish of Samlesbury, and the north-east part of Grimsargh parish. The grits in this area have not been tried as a source of water supply, so the potentiality of water bores is not known. Results from boring in grits vary considerably according to the nature of the grit and its openness of grain and extent of the jointing and fissuring.

West of the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit occurs the Triassic Bunter Sandstone, a fairly hard red, yellow or buff-coloured sandstone. The details of structure and the position of faults are only assumed, but the following picture has been obtained by the study of available bore records. The Bunter Sandstone is faulted against or overlies the most steeply dipping Carboniferous Limestone shales, and the Millstone Grit to the east and south-east. The sandstone dips gently to the north-west, and occurs beneath the "drift" in the parishes of Barton, Woodplumpton, Lea, Hutton, Penwortham, Cuerdale, the south-west part of the parish

of Grimsargh, and the north-west part of Samlesbury parish. It is affected by strong faults, the exact positions of which are difficult to determine.

Keuper Marl, thinly bedded, fine grained red marls with bands and patches of green-coloured marls and thin bands of fine grained sandstone or "skerries", are present beneath the boulder clay in the parishes of Longton, Little Hoole, Much Hoole and Farington. The beds dip north-westwards and are separated from the Bunter Sandstone to the north by a fault. Borings in Keuper Marl give little or no water, and that which is obtained is too highly mineralised to be of use for public supply.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

The following notes are taken from the report of Dr. Barocas, the Director of the Jeremiah Horrocks and Wilfred Hall Observatories, Preston.

The weather for the year 1971 in Preston had two obvious characteristics. It was a dry year and the winter was milder. The average temperature for the year as a whole was 0.5°F. higher than average. December being an unusually warm month, with temperatures in the fifties being recorded.

From data for a considerable number of years we have evidence that in Preston the coldest month is January and the warmest is July. The year 1971 being no exception with the coldest day of the year falling on January 1st when minimum temperature was 21.0°F. The year 1970 recorded 10°F. lower. The hottest day of the year was July 8th when maximum temperature reached 80.8°F.

The total amount of rainfall was 736.3mm. (29.01 ins.) which is 227mm. (8.94 ins.) less than average and the driest since 1955. The wettest day of the year was August 10th when 34.2mm. (1.348 ins.) of rain fell and only on two other occasions throughout the year did we have rainfall greater than 25mm. (0.985 ins.).

General Statistics

STATISTICS AND GENERAL SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

- (1) Area in acres — 49,754.
- (2) Population (Census 1971) — 52,660.
- (3) Registrar-General's estimate of home population, 1971 — 53,200.
- (4) Number of inhabited houses end of 1971 according to Rate Book — 17,255.
- (5) Rateable value, 31st March, 1971 — £1,886,024.
- (6) Sum represented by a penny rate — £18,100.

The Rural District, which is mainly agricultural, consists chiefly of pleasant undulating country, dotted here and there with patches of woodland, and watered by innumerable brooks.

Dairy farming, poultry farming, market gardening, paper manufacture and engineering comprise the main industries. There was little evidence of unemployment among the inhabitants of the district in 1971.

Golf courses are situate at Penwortham and Lea. There are cricket grounds at Broughton, New Longton, Penwortham and Whittingham. Facilities for tennis, football and bowls are available, and Playing Fields have been provided by the Rural District Council in practically all parishes.

There are 40 schools in the area, providing facilities for both primary and secondary education, and the Lancashire County Council provides branches of the County Library mostly in schools and village halls throughout the district.

Year	Reg. Gen. mid year estimates of population	Increase over previous year	% Increase	Rateable Value 1st April	% Increase of R.V.
1967	49,220	900	1.86	1,704,005	1.99
1968	50,280	1,060	2.15	1,754,371	2.94
1969	51,310	1,030	2.05	1,802,710	2.76
1970	51,690	380	0.73	1,835,335	1.81
1971	53,200	1,510	2.83	1,886,024	2.76

VITAL STATISTICS

PERIOD	DEATHS (all causes)		LIVE BIRTHS		STILL- BIRTHS		LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	INFANT MORTALITY				NEO- NATAL	ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS	MATERNAL MORTALITY						
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate par 1000 Total Births		TOTAL						No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Rate per 1000 legiti- mate Live Births	Rate per 1000 illegiti- mate Live Births	per cent of total Live Births	No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births
Year ... 1971...	628	11.8	799	*15.0	11	14.0	810	10	13.0	13.0	—	10.0	5	—	—					
Year ... 1970...	626	12.1	689	13.3	16	23.0	705	10	15.0	12.0	63	12.0	5	—	—					
1969...	644	12.6	774	15.1	7	9.0	781	7	9.0	9.0	—	5.0	3.0	—	—					
1968...	629	12.5	786	15.6	11	14.0	797	10	13.0	14.0	30	7.6	4.3	—	—					
1967...	631	12.8	840	17.1	4	5.0	844	21	25.0	26.3	25	19.0	4.9	—	—					
1966...	693	14.3	853	17.7	19	21.8	872	15	17.6	16.9	37	12.9	3.1	—	—					
Average 5 years 1966—1970	—	12.9	—	15.8	—	14.6	—	—	15.9	15.6	31.0	11.3	—	—	—					

* Adjusted (live birth-rate; comparability factor, 1.16 } = 17.4 per 1,000
(death-rate; comparability factor, 0.95 } = 11.2 per 1,000

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births. The statistics with regard to both births and deaths, have again been supplied by the Registrar-General through the County Public Health Department. The number of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfers.

According to the Registrar-General, the total births registered in or belonging to the Rural Area during the year 1971 number 799 (males 400, females 399); 110 more than in the year 1970.

The live birth-rate for the Rural District, calculated on the estimated home population, corresponds to 15·0 per 1,000, as against 13·3 last year. The adjusted birth-rate, using the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General, is 17·4. The live birth-rate for England and Wales for the year 1971 was 16·0.

The sex distribution of the children born alive during 1971 is shown below. For comparative purposes, the figures for the previous decade are also given:

Year		Males		Females		Total
1962	.....	364	.....	390	.....	754
1963	.....	417	.....	346	.....	763
1964	.....	394	.....	390	.....	784
1965	.....	418	.....	390	.....	808
1966	.....	461	.....	392	.....	853
1967	.....	417	.....	423	.....	840
1968	.....	393	.....	393	.....	786
1969	.....	381	.....	393	.....	774
1970	.....	345	.....	344	.....	689
1971	.....	400	.....	399	.....	799

Illegitimate Live Births. The number of births of illegitimate children belonging to the Rural District and recognised during 1971 compared with that of every other year of the last decade is shown below:

Year 1962	.....	19	Year 1967	.....	41
„ 1963	.....	20	„ 1968	.....	33
„ 1964	.....	28	„ 1969	.....	25
„ 1965	.....	26	„ 1970	.....	32
„ 1966	.....	27	„ 1971	.....	36

DEATHS. The net deaths actually belonging to the Preston Rural District for the year 1971 numbered 628 (males 339, females 289). This total includes deaths of persons belonging to the Rural District who died outside the district, and of persons who died in the Whittingham Hospital and Ribchester Institution irrespective of their home address.

The death-rate for the Rural District calculated on a home population of 53,200 is 11·8 per 1,000. Last year the death-rate was 12·1. The average death-rate for the five years 1966—1970 was 12·9.

The Registrar-General has supplied a comparability factor for adjusting local death-rates. This factor takes into account the varying population constitution, including sex and age distribution to make every district comparative from the mortality point of view with the death-rate of the country as a whole, or with similarly adjusted death-rates for other areas. The adjusted death-rate using the comparability factor is 11·2 per 1,000, as against last year's adjusted rate of 11·5.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1971 was 11·6 per 1,000 home population.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS. Approximately 70 per cent of all deaths each year are classified to causes falling within three main groups — heart disease, cancer and cerebrovascular disease. The relative importance of these and of other principal causes of death in 1971 is shown in the following table:

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths	Percentage of Total Deaths
Heart Disease (all forms)	223 (226)	36·51 (36·10)
Cerebrovascular Disease	91 (88)	14·49 (14·05)
Cancer (including Hodgkin's Disease, leukaemia and aleukaemia)	100 (104)	15·92 (16·61)
Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Influenza	91 (90)	14·49 (14·37)
Other circulatory Disease	26 (26)	4·14 (4·15)
Violence (including all Accidents, Suicide and Homicide)	23 (32)	3·66 (5·11)

The figures in brackets show the number of deaths for 1970.

In the following paragraphs further details are given of the chief causes of death.

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, INCLUDING NEOPLASMS OF LYMPHATIC AND HAEMATOPOIETIC TISSUES

The group of causes is included in the Registrar-General's Short List under the headings used in the table below.

Classification	Males	Females	Total
Buccal Cavity, etc.	1	1	2
Oesophagus	3	2	5
Stomach	1	6	7
Intestine	6	7	13
Lung, Bronchus	19	5	24
Breast	—	11	11
Uterus	—	4	4
Prostate	2	—	2
Leukaemia	4	3	7
Other malignant neoplasms	12	13	25
Total: all forms	48	52	100

The total of 100 deaths from cancer is equal to the average of the previous four years.

Of the total deaths from all causes assigned to the Rural District in 1971 the 100 classified to all forms of cancer represented 15.92% and were equivalent to a rate of 1.88 per thousand of the estimated Rural District population, which is less than the rate for England and Wales of 2.39.

PNEUMONIA, BRONCHITIS AND INFLUENZA

Deaths assigned to these cause groups — Pneumonia 61, Bronchitis 27, Influenza 3.

OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE

This classification which covers all diseases of the circulatory system except heart diseases mentioned earlier, accounted in 1971 for 26 deaths, the same as 1970. The mortality rate per thousand of the estimated Rural District population was 0.49 compared with rates of 0.50 and 0.43 for 1970 and 1969 respectively.

The following table shows the net deaths actually belonging to the Rural District for the year 1971 distinguishing males and females and at different periods of life.

Cause of death	Sex	4 Weeks			Age in years									
		Total	Under	and										
		all	4	under	1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75	& over
B4 Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B5 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
B19(1) Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
B19(2) Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
B19(3) Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	—
B19(4) Malignant neoplasm, intestine	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	2	—
B19(6) Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	10	2	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—

Cause of death	Sex	4 Weeks		Age in years									
		Total	Under										
		all	4	1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
B19(7) Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	5
B19(8) Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
B19(9) Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
B19(10) Leukaemia	M	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
	F	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
B19(11) Other malignant neoplasms	M	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	4	2
	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	5	3
B20 Benign and unspecified neoplasms	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
B21 Diabetes mellitus	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B23 Anaemias	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(3) Mental disorders	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
B46(4) Multiple Sclerosis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
B46(5) Other diseases of nervous system	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
B26 Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
B27 Hypertensive disease	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
B28 Ischaemic heart disease	M	112	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	25	40	36
	F	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	25	29
B29 Other forms of heart disease	M	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	10
	F	23	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	18
B30 Cerebrovascular disease	M	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	15	21
	F	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	13	29
B46(6) Other diseases of circulatory system	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	4
	F	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	12
B31 Influenza	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
B32 Pneumonia	M	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	6	11
	F	39	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	8	28
B33(1) Bronchitis and emphysema	M	21	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	8	8
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
B33(2) Asthma	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
B46(7) Other diseases of respiratory system	M	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1
	F	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B34 Peptic ulcer	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	2
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B36 Intestinal obstruction and hernia	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
B46(8) Other diseases of digestive system	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
B38 Nephritis and nephrosis	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B39 Hyperplasia of prostate	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
B46(9) Other diseases, genito-urinary system	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B40 Abortion	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
B46(10) Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B42 Congenital anomalies	M	3	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
B43 Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B44 Other causes of perinatal mortality	M	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B45 Symptoms and ill defined conditions	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
BE47 Motor vehicle accidents	M	5	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
BE48 All other accidents	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4
BE49 Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
BE50 All other external causes	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	339	7	2	3	2	4	—	8	24	68	108	113
	F	289	1	—	3	4	—	—	4	14	31	79	153

INFANT MORTALITY

The deaths of infants under the age of one year numbered 10 (males 9, females 1), the same as 1970. Four-fifths of the infant deaths occurred during the first four weeks after birth. They were equivalent to a rate of 10 per 1,000.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Infectious cases are removed to Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston, and transport arrangements are expeditious.

A pleasing feature of the annual review of the prevalence of notifiable diseases and non-notifiable acute infectious diseases is the repeated statement that no cases of diphtheria and smallpox have been recorded during the year. This can also be said of Acute Poliomyelitis during 1971.

Scarlet Fever. The 51 notified cases of this disease represent an increase of 26 when compared with last year 99% of the cases were of primary school age.

Whooping Cough. 14 cases were notified as against 7 for the previous year.

Measles (excluding rubella). The incidence of measles during the past five years is:

1966 — 822	1969 — 27
1967 — 272	1970 — 584
1968 — 317	1971 — 44

Typhoid. No cases of Typhoid or Paratyphoid occurred.

Infective Jaundice. 13 cases were notified as against 26 the previous year.

Dysentery. 13 cases of dysentery were recorded which is 8 higher than last year.

Notifications. The table below shows the number of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year 1971 after corrections subsequently made either by notifying medical practitioners or by the medical superintendent of the local infectious diseases hospital.

Notification of Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases (after correction)
for the year ended 31st December, 1971, analysed by age

Notifiable diseases	Total Cases Notified											Total Death
	Total Cases at all ages	Age Periods—Years										
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over	Age un-known	
Scarlet Fever ...	51	—	2	2	2	7	34	3	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	14	—	4	—	3	1	6	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis												
Paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding rubella) ...	44	1	8	1	4	5	17	6	2	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	6	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			0-	5	15	45	65 and over	Age un-known				
Infective Jaundice ..	13	—	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis												
Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-infectious ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	25	4	7	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ...												
Respiratory ...	4	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

The scheme for the prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis in the Administrative County is administered by the Lancashire County Council and the Manchester Region Hospitals Board respectively.

A number of dispensaries are provided for the diagnosis of the disease, staffed by Chest Physicians and Tuberculosis Health Visitors. These dispensaries serve a valuable purpose in the supervision of patients and family contacts.

The first table opposite gives in certain specified age groups the male and female notified cases of respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis in the year 1971, together with the deaths therefrom.

The second table gives a comparison with the previous five years, but excludes age distribution.

Age Periods Years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0
1
2
5
10 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15
20
25	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
35
45
55
65
75 and upwards
Totals ...	1	3	Nil		Nil		Nil	

YEAR	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1971	1	3	...	...	—	...	...	...
1970	1	...	...	1	1	..	...	...
1969	4	9	...	...	4	1	...	...
1968	5	7	...	...	.	...	...	...
1967	3	2	1	1	1	1	...	...
1966	7	2	1	1	1	...	...	...

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Number of burials arranged under the Act Nil

SCHOOLS

There are 40 schools in the Rural Area providing facilities for both primary and secondary education.

With minor exceptions, the sanitary facilities including food hygiene arrangements are satisfactory.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following new legislation inter alia is now in force or will shortly be coming into force:

Housing Act, 1971.

Clean Air Act, 1956, The Smoke Control (Authorised Fuels) No. 2) Regulations, 1971.

Farm & Garden Chemicals Regulations, 1971 (operation 1st May, 1973).

The Preservatives in Food (Amendment) Regulations, 1971.

Slaughter of Poultry (Humane Conditions) Regulations, 1971.

Motor Vehicles (Construction and use) (Amendment) Regulation, 1971 (Into force 1st January, 1972).

Milk (Eradication of Brucellosis) (Variation) scheme, 1971.

The Clean Air (Measurement of Grit and Dust from Furnaces) Regulation, 1971.

The Clean Air (Emission of Grit and Dust from Furnaces) Regulation, 1971.

Building (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 1971.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

A meat inspection service was provided at a private slaughterhouse at Farington.

The following table shows the numbers of certain classes of animals killed in the Rural Area during 1971 together with the number and result of the inspections carried out.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	369	Nil	Nil	745	24
Number inspected	369	Nil	Nil	745	24
All diseases except Tuberculosis and and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	54	Nil	Nil	36	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	14.63	Nil	Nil	4.83	16.66
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cysticercosis					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are 15 poultry processing establishments within the District and altogether 337 visits were made to these premises during the year under review. Over 517,215 birds were processed including turkeys, ducks, hens, broilers and capons. 1.7 per cent of the birds were rejected as being unfit for human consumption, the weight of which was estimated at 9 tons 9 cwt. 87 lbs.

Unfortunately the staffing position does not permit the inspection of poultry to be given the attention it deserves.

SAMPLING — FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the Assistant County Public Health Officer under the provisions of the above Act are:—

A total of 224 samples was obtained comprising 131 milks (10 of which were Channel Islands Milk) and 93 others as follows:—

1 Breakfast Cereal	1 Stout, bottled
2 Soup Mixture	1 Cider, bottled
1 Cold Relief Powder	1 Analgesic Powders
1 Aspirin Tablets	1 Low Fat Soft Cheese
1 Gravy Cubes	1 Butter
1 Bread Crumbs	1 Curry Sauce Mix
1 Blancmange Powder	1 Liquid Antiseptic
1 Instant Coffee	1 Sugar
1 Jam	1 Weetabix
1 Bicarbonate of Soda	1 Buttercream Shortcakes
1 Chocolate Sponge Cake	1 Blackcurrant Sundaes
1 Icing Sugar	1 Lemon Sundaes
1 Dried Parsley	1 Low Fat Yoghurt
1 Milk Substitute	2 Fresh Cream Dessert
1 Orange Drink	1 Bread (Home Baked)
1 Malt Vinegar	1 Pears
1 Dairy Produce, canned (Milk Top)	1 Apples
2 Sterilised Cream	1 Peas
1 Cough Mixture	1 Pork Sausage
1 Cooking Fat	1 Onions
1 Processed Cheddar Cheese	1 Carrots
1 Dairy Custard	1 Brisling in Tomato Sauce
1 Corn Oil	1 Apple Peelings
1 Malt Vinegar	1 Sliced Loaf
1 Lard	1 Battenberg Cake
1 Cornish Pasties	1 Fresh Onions
1 Jellied Veal	1 Pork Luncheon Meat, canned
2 Pork Pies	1 Tomato Juice
1 Grapefruit Juice	1 Macaroni Pudding, canned
1 Pineapple Orange Drink, canned	1 Rice Pudding, canned
1 Indian Tonic Water	1 Sausage, canned
1 Fish Fingers	1 Dry Ginger Ale
1 Cod Steaks	1 Fresh Tomatoes
1 Mandarin Orange Dessert, canned	1 Lobster Pate
	1 Curried Beans with Sultanas, canned

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Creamed Mushroom, canned | 1 Creamed Sago Milk Pudding, canned |
| 1 Analgesic Tablets | |
| 1 Malted Milk Biscuits | 1 Shrimps, canned |
| 2 Milk Shake Syrup | 1 Meat Pudding, canned |
| 1 Macaroni Shapes | 1 Ham and Chicken Roll, canned |
| 1 Bread | 1 Laxative Pills |
| 1 Strawberry Flavour Topping | 1 Strawberry and Cream Dessert |
| 1 Baking Yeast | 1 Beef Sausage |
| 1 Pale Ale, canned | 3 Fresh Lambs Liver |

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Milk Substitute	Consisted of skimmed milk with non-milk fat. Packet bore no “appropriate designation”. The Labelling exemptions in the Dried Milk Regulations with respect to the catering sales do not apply to this product. Should be fully labelled in accordance with the requirements of regulation 3(1) (a) of the Skimmed Milk with Non-Milk Fat Regulations, 1960, i.e. “Dried Skimmed Milk with Non-Milk Fat — Unfit for Babies”.	Supplier cautioned and advised to include words “Low Fat” in name of product
Grapefruit Juice	Labelled “Rich in Natural Vitamins” but did not comply with the requirements of either the 1953 Order or the 1970 Regulations on Labelling in that there was no statement of specific vitamins and their amount (in terms of milligrams per ounce or per 100 mls.). The use of the word “rich” implies that half the daily requirement may be obtained from a normal intake of the food.	Importers communicated with

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Sugar	The bag (but not the sugar) held in its folds 12 dead and one living PSOCOPTERA (book lice) which feed upon microscopic fungi. Caking of the sugar and the appearance of the bottom of the bag suggested that it had been stored in damp conditions, and these favour the development of PSOCOPTERA.	Local Authority informed
Weetabix	The outside of the inner packets had fifteen PSOCOPTERA (book lice) upon them, ten of which were dead. The cereal itself was unaffected.	Local Authority informed
Bread (Home Baked)	Contained a roll of bread dough stained brown with 2% of iron present, both in a colloidal form and as oxides. The stained dough also contained 0.46% of copper. The coloured dough was in the form of a coating over a cone of white dough and the whole pellet which weighed 0.61 grammes appeared to have been rolled between rotating surfaces of a machine.	Bakery cautioned and complainant informed
Informal Milk	Freezing point indicates 2.1% extra-neous water.	Producer cautioned
Pork Sausage	Contained 100 parts per million of sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration. Lean Meat 28.5% Fat 43.5% <hr/> 72.0% Apparent total meat Pork Sausage should contain not less than 32.5% lean meat.	Vendor cautioned and manufacturer cautioned
Sliced Loaf	2.08 gms. of clean unrisen cooked dough were trapped between 2 of the slices of the sliced loaf but they probably originated outside the sample loaf and gained access to the wrapper at the bakery.	Complainant and bakery informed

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Informal Milk	Contained 0.1 International Units cm ³ penicillin.	Dairy cautioned
Battenberg Cake	Part of a wasp comprising head, 2 front legs and palpi weighing in all 26 mgm.	Complainant informed manufacturers cautioned
Creamed Sago Milk Pudding (canned)	Contained no fruit illustration of the pudding with peaches. Should be marked "Serving Suggestion".	Packers communicated with
Laxative Pills	Total Magnesium (as Light Mag- nesium Carbonate) 5.8 mgms. per pill compared with declared 2.5 mgms. per pill. Excess magnesium due to excipient filling.	No action advised
Beef Sausage	Contained 245 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor interviewed and cautioned
Fresh Lambs Liver	Contained 125 parts per million of copper. Copper in excess of about 50 parts per million is excessive and probably originated from other than natural causes.	Further cans obtained from same source
Informal Milk	Contained a small ball of sage and onion stuffing (complete with 13% suet) weighing 0.7 gm. moist (0.16 gm.) dry.	Complainant interviewed, dairy informed
Informal Milk	Contained 0.15 International Unit penicillin per ml.	Formal sample obtained
Raw Lambs Liver	Contained 90 parts per million of copper. Copper in excess of about 50 parts per million is excessive and probably originated from other than natural sources.	Importer cautioned

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Raw Lambs Liver	Contained 105 parts per million of copper. Copper in excess of about 50 parts per million is excessive and probably originates from other than natural sources.	Importer cautioned
Bread	Contained 0.34 gm. of discoloured unrisen dough stained with 0.7 mgm. of iron embedded in which were 3 minute pieces of green nylon thread having some kind of glass embedded in them—derived from a pan scour.	Complainant informed, bakery cautioned

PERCENTAGE OF UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Year	Total No. of samples	No. of unsatisfactory samples	Percentage unsatisfactory
1967	257	14	5.4
1968	255	14	5.1
1969	245	12	4.9
1970	241	16	6.6
1971	224	19	8.48

SWIMMING POOLS

There is one swimming pool in the district. Bacteriological samples have been taken and advice given regarding the correct operation and use of the chlorinator and filtration plant used at the premises.

Water Supplies

The two major sources of water distribution in the Rural District are the Preston & District and Fylde Water Boards, who supply 41,700 and 9,700 water consumers respectively. Both supplies are controlled at source by both chemical and bacteriological tests. In addition, it is the responsibility of the Council to ensure the water supply to the district is satisfactory in quality and routine sampling from domestic taps in the various townships was carried out by officers of the Council. Samples indicated that the lead content was less than 0.05 p.p.m. The fluoride content is 0.05 p.p.m. for the Preston water and less than 0.1 p.p.m. for Fylde water.

The following table gives details of water supplies in the various townships. The number of houses on private supply is 71.

Parish	No. of houses newly connected to public mains supply during 1971		From Public Mains				From Private Supplies, <i>e.g.</i> wells, springs, etc.	
			Direct to houses		By means of standpipe			
	Existing houses	New houses	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of popula- tion	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of popula- tion	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of popula- tion
Barton	20	689	2020	...	...	...	...
Broughton	16	207	628	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale	10	45	...	...	...	...
Dutton	46	155	...	...	20	57
Farington	50	1726	4980	...	...	...	...
Goosnargh	292	1028	...	...	31	88
Grimsargh	29	468	1349	...	...	...	...
Haighton	68	240	...	...	1	3
Hothersall	41	159	...	...	...	...
Hutton	4	892	2577	...	...	...	...
Lea	1246	3700	...	...	4	11
Little Hoole	14	373	1054	...	...	...	...
Longton	27	2780	7834	...	...	...	...
Much Hoole	9	484	1347	...	...	2	7
Penwortham	73	5868	17190	...	...	...	...
Ribchester	1	503	1479	...	...	8	25
Samlesbury	5	412	1220	...	...	3	10
Whittingham	60	696	3992	...	...	1	4
Woodplumpton	13	668	2000	...	...	1	3
TOTAL Whole District	...	321	17469	52997	...	...	71	208

Copies of typical chemical results are given below expressed as parts per million.

Preston and District Water Board

Total solid residue	60.0
Oxygen required to oxydise in 3 hours	1.16
Ammonia — Free and saline	0.06
Ammonia — Albuminoid	0.072
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.30
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Chlorides	12.0
Temporary hardness	2.0
Permanent hardness	36.0
Total hardness	38.0
pH value	7.2
Physical properties — Colour	10 hazen

Fylde Water Board

	Hodder Supply		Whitechapel Supply
Appearance	clear & bright	...	clear & bright
Colour (Hazen p. p. m. Pt)	6	.....	2
Turbidity (p. p. m. Silica)	Nil	.....	Nil
Odour	Nil	.....	Nil
Taste	Normal	.....	Normal
Reaction pH Value	8.0	.....	6.4
Residual Chlorine	0.25	.....	0.05
Free & Saline Ammonia as N ₂	0.08	.....	0.18
Albuminoid Ammonia as N ₂	0.16	.....	0.02
Nitrous Nitrogen as N ₂	0.003		Negligible
Nitric Nitrogen as N ₂	0.38	.....	0.20
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours at 27°C	0.78	.....	0.04
Free Acidity as CO ₂	Nil	.....	Nil
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	18	.....	15
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	48	.....	24
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	30	.....	9
Excess Alkalinity as Na ₂ CO ₃	Nil	.....	Nil
Calcium as CaCO ₃	42	.....	16
Magnesium as CaCO ₃	6	.....	8
Total Solids dried at 180°C.....	92	.....	65
Chloride as Cl	12	.....	11
Sulphate as SO ₄	30	.....	15
Lead as Pb	less than 0.05.....		less than 0.05
Manganese as Mn	0.03	.....	0.04
Copper as Cu	Nil	.....	Nil
Iron as Fe	0.04	.....	0.08
Aluminium as Al	0.10	.....	0.05
Fluoride as F.....	less than 0.10	.....	less than 0.10
Electrical Conductivity m m h o/c.c.....	125		80

p.p.m.

NEW HOUSING

The following table shows the number and situation of new houses which were erected and gives a comparison with the previous year:

Parish	1971			1970		
	Private Enterprise	Council	Total	Private Enterprise	Council	Total
Barton	20	—	20	14	—	14
Broughton	16	—	16	3	—	3
Cuerdale	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Farington	50	—	50	50	—	50
Goosnargh	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grimsargh	29	—	29	58	—	58
Haighton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hothersall	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hutton	4	—	4	3	—	3
Lea	—	—	—	6	—	6
Little Hoole	14	—	14	6	—	6
Longton	27	—	27	60	—	60
Much Hoole	9	—	9	6	—	6
Penwortham	39	34	73	29	—	29
Ribchester	1	—	1	1	—	1
Samlesbury	5	—	5	—	—	—
Whittingham	60	—	60	45	—	45
Woodplumpton	13	—	13	15	—	15
Totals	287	34	321	296	—	296

The number of houses in the district now stands at 17,540, and the following table analyses this total by age:

Not more than 10 years old	4,273
Between 10 and 20 years old	3,015
Between 20 and 30 years old	1,730
Between 30 and 40 years old	1,803
Between 40 and 50 years old	3,092
Over 50 years old	3,627

Sewage Disposal

The several comprehensive schemes of sewerage recently completed have greatly improved the sewage situation in the Rural Area, and the following table indicates the present position in the various parishes.

The total population figure of 3,996 for the parish of Whittingham does not include some 3,190 patients and resident staff of the Whittingham Hospital, which has its own sewage treatment works. Accordingly, the total population figure given in the right-hand column of the table would be more accurately quoted at 5,762.

Parish	Connected to Public Sewer		Septic Tank, etc.	
	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population
Barton ...	623	1815	66	205
Broughton ...	103	318	104	310
Cuerdale ...	...	...	10	45
Dutton ...	...	...	66	207
Farington ...	1700	4915	26	65
Goosnargh ...	60	129	263	887
Grimsargh ...	430	1227	38	122
Haighton ...	...	...	69	243
Hothersall ...	...	...	41	159
Hutton ...	777	2251	115	326
Lea ...	987	2887	263	824
Little Hoole ...	330	921	43	133
Longton ...	2736	7706	44	128
Much Hoole ...	432	1200	54	154
Penwortham ...	5858	17157	10	33
Ribchester ...	364	1171	147	433
Samlesbury ...	159	474	256	756
Whittingham ...	476	1424	221	2572
Woodplumpton ...	152	454	517	1549
TOTAL				
Whole District ...	15187	44049	2353	9151

The main districts which still require public sewerage facilities are the Darkinson Lane, the Hoyles Lane areas of Lea, Woodplumpton village and a small area of Whittingham close to Longridge-Whittingham boundary.

Work is now in progress for the new sewerage scheme at Lea Town. A site is proposed at Ribchester for a new sewerage treatment plant to replace the existing obsolete works.

Factories Act, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Part I of the Act

1—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	1	...	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	141	49	...	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	2	6	...	...
TOTAL ...	144	56	...	...

2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	...	..	..	...	..
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	..	..	..	..	..
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	..	1	..
(c) Not separate for sexes .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL ..	1	1	..	1	..

Part VIII—Sections 133 and 134

Number of Outworkers in August List required by Section 133 (1) (c), 2 Wearing Apparel (making, etc.)

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Chief Public Health Inspector's Report

To the Chairman and Members of the Preston Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my annual report for the year 1971 covering the various aspects of environmental health dealt with by the Public Health Department.

As in previous years, the staff was kept extremely busy in carrying out their wide range of duties. There was a very considerable increase in the number of enquiries received from members of the general public, particularly regarding house improvement grants.

Under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1971, the amounts of grant available in respect of improvements was increased from 50% to 75% of the cost of the works. This increase stimulated the interest of property owners, especially owner occupiers and many who had not previously considered improving their property decided to take advantage of the increased grant. Consequently a substantial part of the public health inspectors time was spent on the inspection of houses, in connection with enquiries for grant aid and also to ensure compliance with the requirements of the scheme whilst work was in progress.

Following the submission of a report on housing and associated environmental matters at Ribchester, the Council declared the whole of the village to be a General Improvement Area. Although this is likely to be a long term exercise it is a worthwhile project.

During the year a phased programme of smoke control areas to cover the whole of the district was submitted to and approved by the Council. Your staff are now in the early stages of implementing this programme. The first area will cover 1,033 houses at Lea.

The work of the Central Lancashire Development Corporation contains all the basic elements likely to add to the existing air pollution and background noise levels in the area:—

Increase in density of population.

Increase in manufacturing and industrial activity.

Increase in the number of motor vehicles.

The above items have many sub-divisions which have varying degrees of pollution potential. Fortunately there is an early indication that the Development Corporation are aware of this position and that consultations will take place to ensure adequate consideration is given to air pollution control measures.

The pilot scheme of control over poultry processing plants continued but pressure of other work prevented its extension to all premises at which poultry is slaughtered.

There was an increase in the number of complaints of unfit food, in many cases this was due to inadequate attention being given to date coding of perishable foods with the result that food which should have been withdrawn from stock was in a number of instances sold to customers.

A further function of the department is the administration of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. The working conditions and welfare facilities of persons employed in 194 establishments are controlled by this Act.

The greater volume of grant work and the advent of smoke control areas substantially increased the work load of the administrative staff and in this connection I wish to acknowledge the excellent work of Mrs. Martin in contending successfully with these additional duties.

In conclusion, I would again like to express to the members of the Council and in particular to the Public Health Committee and the Housing Committee my thanks for their interest in the work of the department and for their continued support. My thanks are also due to the public health inspectors for their whole-hearted co-operation at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BAXTER

Chief Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS

Drainage and Septic Tanks	584
Infectious Diseases	375
Verminous Premises and Persons	7
Waste Foods Order	5
Milk and Dairies	166
Food Premises	224
Shops	26
Factories	56
Caravans	27
Schools	6
Hotels, Inns, etc.	16
Ice Cream Premises	—
Hawkers	24
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	31
Housing Acts — Discretionary and Standard Grants	1103
Qualification Certificates	89
Clean Air Acts	4
Closet Conversions	6
Poultry Packing Stations	337
Petroleum Act	61
Water Supply	48
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	108
Knacker's Yard	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	245
Housing Applications	1
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	14
Noise Abatement Act	29
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	—
Public Health Acts — Nuisances and Housing Defects	274
Other Visits	404
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Total Visits	4,271
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NOTICES SERVED

Informal	31
Formal	3

SANITARY DEFECTS DEALT WITH

Dampness	4
Defective Ceilings	1
Defective Closet Pails	1
Defective Closet Structures	1
Defective Doors	—
Defective Floors	—
Defective Gutters	6
Defective Paving	—
Defective Downspouts	2
Defective Roofs	—
Defective Chimneys	—
Defective Pointing	1
Defective Walls	3
Defective Brickwork	—
Defective W.C's	3
Defective Windows	2
Defective Woodwork	—
Defective Fire Ranges	—
Defective Sink Waste Pipes	—
Defective Sinks	—
Insanitary Drainage	80
Ditches and Watercourses	1

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Altogether 584 visits were made in connection with complaints of unsatisfactory drainage, including fouled ditches and watercourses and also for the purpose of drain testing. 311 new dwellings were connected to the public sewers in the various parishes during 1971, making 15,187 houses so connected out of a total in the Rural District of 17,540.

At the end of the year the position as regards sanitary conveniences belonging to inhabited houses was as follows:

No. of fresh water closets	17,643
No of pail closets	274
No. of waste water closets	34

The pail closets mainly exist in the outlying parishes and the waste water closets in the older type terraced houses in the parish of Farington. The following conversions took place during 1971:

No. of pail closets to fresh water closets	0
No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets	3

The Department operates an eleven-hundred gallon cesspool emptier vehicle for the purpose of providing a free septic tank desludging service to houses in unsewered areas, and every effort is made to desludge the tanks at intervals of not more than six months. A service is also extended, on a rechargeable basis, to owners of business and factory premises. The income derived from this source amounted to £957.52.

In addition, a drain clearing service is available to householders on a fixed charge basis of £1.00 per clearance. The service is confined to drainage systems where inspection chambers are provided. 97 drains were cleared during 1971.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

375 visits have been made by the District Public Health Inspectors in connection with the investigation of infectious diseases during 1971.

They were related primarily to food poisoning and dysentery outbreaks at a local farm and school respectively.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

194 premises are now registered. 245 visits of all kinds were made by the Public Health Inspectors to see that the requirements of the Act are being fully implemented.

Particulars of Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices	5	42	5
Retail shops	1	112	7
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	2	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	37	9
Fuel storage depots ...	...	1	—
TOTALS ...	8	194	21

Analysis by Workplace of Persons Employed in Registered Premises at end of Year

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	155
Retail shops	354
Wholesale departments, warehouses	13
Catering establishments open to the public ...	300
Canteens ... ..	...
Fuel storage depots	1
Total	823
Total Males	327
Total Females	496

No accidents occurred.

SLUM CLEARANCE

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Housing Acts, 1936 to 1964.

The following table shows action taken in the various Parishes in the Rural District with regard to slum clearance from 1945 to 1971 inclusive:

PARISH				HOUSES						
				Demolished or closed		Undertakings accepted following formal action		Voluntary action by owners		Scheduled for demolition
				<i>Form-ally</i>	<i>Infor-mally</i>	<i>Not to be used for human habitation</i>	<i>Re-construction</i>	<i>Re-construction or conversion to other use</i>	<i>Not to be used for human habitation</i>	
Barton	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Broughton	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dutton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farington	...	...	36	3	2	1	...	...	1
Goosnargh	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Grimsargh	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Haighton	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hothersall	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Hutton	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lea	...	...	9	2	1	1	...	...	...
Little Hoole	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...
Longton	...	...	36	13	4	6	...	...	...
Much Hoole	...	...	4	1	...	3	...	1	...
Penwortham	...	...	47	12	3	3	2	...	1
Ribchester	...	...	10	...	7	2	...	...	2
Samlesbury	...	...	11	4	...	4	...	...	1
Whittingham...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Woodplumpton	...	...	21	6	5	3	...	...	...
TOTALS	...	...	183	44	25	27	2	1	5

UNFIT HOUSES

The statistics shown below relate only to the year under review.
Houses demolished

1. In clearance area	Nil
2. Not in clearance areas	1
3. No. of displaced persons re-housed	Nil

Unfit houses closed

1. Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), & 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	Nil
2. No. of displaced persons re-housed	Nil

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied

1. After informal action by local authority	352
2. After formal notice under—	
(a) Public Health Acts	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	Nil

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Discretionary Grants

Number of schemes submitted —

1. By local authority to Ministry	Nil
2. By private individuals to the local authority	70
(a) No. of schemes completed during the year	52
(b) Additional separate dwellings included in the completed schemes	1

Standard Grants

Number of schemes submitted to local authority for improvements to —

(a) Full standard	44
(b) Reduced standard	Nil

Number of schemes approved by local authority for improvements to —

(a) Full standard	44
(b) Reduced standard	Nil

Number of schemes completed	33
-----------------------------------	----

HOUSING ACT 1969

Under Section 44 of this Act owners of property can now apply to the Local Authority for a Qualification Certificate.

The issue of such a certificate in respect of a dwelling enables the owner to approach the Rent Officer with the object of converting a controlled tenancy to a regulated tenancy, i.e. a fair rent. During the year under review 20 applications were approved and 2 applications were refused due to the property concerned being in a poor state of repair.

A number of the former were approved after minor repairs were completed following an informal approach to the owner.

PETROLEUM ACTS

No. of new licences granted for storing petrol during the year	1
No. of renewal licences granted during the year	99

61 visits have been made in connection with the installation and testing of new storage tanks and the renewal of licences. Two unattended coin operated petrol service stations are operating safely in the district.

CARAVANS

The Penwortham Caravan Site is licensed for 78 residential caravans. The site licence conditions require that each caravan on the site must be fitted with a bathroom and W.C. A public water supply and drainage connection is available on each caravan standing. Altogether 10 licences remain in force in respect of 105 'vans.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

The Scrap Metal Dealers' Act, 1964 requires every local authority to maintain a register of persons carrying on business in their area as scrap metal dealers and registration is by right and not at the discretion of the local authority. The main purpose of the Act is to ensure that accurate records of all purchases and sales are kept by any person dealing in scrap metals. 8 dealers have been registered.

CLEAN AIR ACT

During the year approval was given for the erection of two new chimneys serving industrial boilers within the district.

Complaints were received from residents in the Penwortham area concerning deposits of grit. Subsequent investigation revealed that the grit had been emitted from the nearby Power Station operated by the Central Electricity Generating Board.

Following joint discussions between representatives of the Central Electricity Generating Board and the Alkali Inspectorate, certain modifications were made to the plant which will provide better control over the grit arrestation equipment.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

There are 12 licensed establishments in the area catering for 214 dogs and 76 cats. Though minor improvement works were carried out in one or two instances, the general condition of the boarding establishments is satisfactory.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Complaints of excessive noise dealt with by the Department included noise from building sites, barking dogs and noise originating from the activities of inconsiderate neighbours. The complaints were generally resolved after discussion and the tendering of advice.

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The Rural District Council carries out, on behalf of the Lancashire County Council, delegated duties under this Order and regular inspections are made of the five licensed premises — particular attention being paid to storage arrangements and the plant used for boiling operations.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Contaminated Food

11 Complaints of unfit food were received:—

8 were in respect of mould growth on bread and cooked meats and three were concerned with the presence of foreign bodies in milk bottles.

Inspection of food was requested at a number of food shops and a variety of foods were condemned amounting to 521 lbs. In addition some 1,625½ lbs. of frozen food were condemned as a result of breakdowns of three freezer units.

IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS 1968

Under the Imported Food Regulations, 1968, 29,976 items of food were cleared at the Hoole Container Depot.

Milk Sampling

(a) Samples taken for Examination	Results				
	Nature of test	Positive	Negative	No result	
	Brucellosis Ring Test	5	95	—	
	Culture Test	—	4	—	
	Biological Test	—	3	—	

Altogether 100 samples were taken, of which 2 positive herd samples were noted and immediate action taken to clear the infection. 1 Pasteurisation Notice under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, was served.

In order to assist producer retailers in identifying infected animals, individual cow samples are taken in instances when the farmer agrees to send such animals for slaughter.

Biological examination of all milk, water and other food samples is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory under the control of Dr. Robertson and excellent co-operation is always available from his staff.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

Seventy one private water supplies from wells and springs exist in the Rural District. Many are a potential health hazard and it was necessary to continue sampling and to carry out site investigations in order to minimise the risks of pollution.

In general they are outside the limits of the public supply system, but each year we are able to achieve a small reduction in the number of private supplies.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1954-58

The licensed Knacker's Yard which also serves a large area outside the district, dealt with 2,524 animals during 1971. Details are as follows:

Donkeys	6	Pigs	885
Goats	4	Sheep	160
Cattle	1,428	Horses	41

A substantial number of the above were brought in dead.

Year	Number of Animals Killed
1967	2,003
1968	1,210
1969	1,165
1970	2,922
1971	2,524

MEAT INSPECTION

The Council provided a meat inspection service throughout the year at a private slaughterhouse in the parish of Farington.

The number of carcasses of animals inspected at the slaughterhouse was:

Cattle (excluding cows)	369
Cows	Nil
Calves	Nil
Pigs	24
Sheep and Lambs	745

and the following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption:

- 36 beasts' livers for abcesses
- 6 beasts' livers for fasciola hepatica
- 1 beast's liver for fever
- 1 beast's liver for telangectosis
- 5 beasts' heads for cysticercus bovis
- 3 beasts' heads for abscesses
- 2 beasts' heads for actino-mycosis
- 1 beast's lung for pneumonia
- 2 beasts' lungs for abscesses
- 1 beast's lung for emphysema
- 4 beasts' hearts for cysticercus bovis
- 1 beasts' diaphragm for cysticercus bovis
- 9 lambs' livers for parasites
- 28 lambs' livers for fasciola hepatica
- 1 lamb's pluck for pleurisy, pericarditis & peri-tonitis
- 2 lambs' hearts for cysticercus ovis
- 4 pigs' legs for abscesses

The total weight of meat condemned at the slaughterhouse was approximately 9 cwts.

FOOD PREMISES

224 visits have been made to food premises (including manufacturing premises, canteens, restaurants and hotel kitchens) and 10 informal notices served in connection with contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

166 premises are now registered for the storage and sale of loose or pre-packed ice cream manufactured outside the district.

52 persons now operate as hawkers in the Rural District and have been registered for the purpose. 17 premises have also been registered for the storage of foodstuffs.

PARKS AND PLAYING FIELDS

The following schedule gives particulars of the Playing Fields provided in the Rural District and an indication of the area in each field available for games:

Situation	Whole Area	Area for Games	Area let off for Grazing
Barton	5	5	—
Broughton	5	5	—
Church Wood, Penwortham	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	—
Farington	10	— $5\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Goosnargh	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	—
Grimsargh	12	12	—
Hurst Grange, Penwortham	$16\frac{1}{2}$	12	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Hutton	7	7	—
Lea	$16\frac{1}{2}$	4	$12\frac{1}{2}$
Little Hoole	4	4	—
Longton	6	6	—
The Grove, Longton	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$	—
Much Hoole	5	5	—
New Longton	6	6	—
Queensway, Penwortham	5	5	—
Penwortham Hall	$18\frac{1}{2}$	$18\frac{1}{2}$	—
Samlesbury	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—
Tardy Gate	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	—
Woodplumpton	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	2
Kingsfold, Penwortham	6	6	—
Total	$142\frac{1}{2}$	$118\frac{1}{2}$	$23\frac{1}{2}$

PEST CONTROL

Rats, mice, moles, cockroaches, wasps, caterpillars, bugs, fleas, and flies were all included in the wide variety of animals and insect life which the Pest Control Section were required to eliminate or control.

MOLE CONTROL

The operator is trained in the use of strychnine poison and experience has shown it to be an effective method of control.

RODENT CONTROL CONTRACT SERVICE

The changing pattern of agriculture, with its tendency to larger units, has resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of the pig and poultry type of smallholding; consequently, some reduction in the demand for the services in this particular sector was noted. Nevertheless, the contract service still provides the main work for the Pest Control Section, and produced an income of approximately £791·35 in the year under review. Details of the action taken in respect of business, agriculture and domestic premises are:

1.	Total number of dwelling houses in the district	=	17,540
2.	Total number of agricultural premises	=	919
3.	Total number of business premises	=	1212
4.	Total number of visits to premises:		
	(a) agricultural—(i) on contract work	=	662
	(ii) on survey inspection	=	2
	(b) dwelling houses	=	252
	(c) business—(i) on contract work	=	123
	(ii) on survey inspection	=	1
5.	Total number of infestations dealt with:		
	(a) by the local authority—agricultural	=	524
	dwellinghouses	=	44
	business	=	40
	(b) by occupiers	=	Nil
6.	Total number of occupiers under contract with the local authority	=	173

REFUSE TIPS

Frequent visits were made to the refuse tips at Whittingham and Much Hool and also former tips at Grimsargh, Longton, Samlesbury and Lea. No problem arose over rodent control on the tips, regular treatments and the frequent changing of permanent baiting points keeping infestation down to a minimum level.

SEWERS

The sewers received an annual treatment by the Council's rodent operator. Minor infestations were noted in the Ribchester and Farington districts.

- (a) At Ribchester the storm water overflows which are of an unsatisfactory design, discharge directly into small streams and provide access to the sewerage system.
- (b) The combination of waste foods sometimes left by building operatives and access to the sewers through open drains during repairs or construction, sometimes gives rise to infestations.

Factors such as the above prevent the complete eradication of the rat population from the sewage systems.

The Council's sewage works are treated periodically to ensure freedom from rats.

Warfarin continued to be the main poison used against rodents but zinc phosphide, Alphakil and various tracking dusts were also used.

T. BAXTER,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

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FRANK COUPE & CO. LTD
WALTON-LE-DALE
